

# Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center

## Monthly Resource Alert

### December 2010



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Please visit our enhanced Web site at [www.udetc.org](http://www.udetc.org) for the latest information on underage drinking.

#### **New Distance Learning Course offered by the Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center (UDETCC): Conducting Compliance Check Operations**

Beginning December 1, the UDETCC will begin offering distance learning opportunities featuring courses that present best practices and strategies for enforcement of underage drinking laws and efforts to reduce underage drinking. The first of these courses, Conducting Compliance Check Operations can be completed by visiting our website: [www.udetc.org](http://www.udetc.org) and clicking on the Distance Learning tab to complete the course. The web-based, on-line courses are designed to provide basic information to the participant and serve as a foundation for on-site training provided by the UDETCC. Participants can receive a certificate upon completion of the courses. Two new courses will be available in the near future and we will most certainly announce them here: Environmental Strategies and Party Prevention & Controlled Party Dispersal.

#### **Late Breaking NIH Study Shows Specific Environmental Strategies that are Effective in Reducing College Alcohol Consumption**

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) recently reported that highly visible cooperative projects, in which colleges and their surrounding communities target off-campus drinking settings, can reduce harmful alcohol use among college students, according to a report by researchers supported by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), part of NIH.

As reported online in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, researchers led by Robert Saltz, Ph.D., conducted the Safer California Universities study of college and community alcohol prevention strategies at 14 large public universities in California.

"Other investigators have noted the need for studies of multi-strategy cooperative prevention approaches to reduce harmful college drinking," notes Dr. Saltz, a senior research scientist at the Prevention Research Center in Berkeley, Calif. "Our study addresses that need." Beginning in 2003, Dr. Saltz and his colleagues conducted random surveys of students from each of the participating schools. The survey documented that heavy drinking at off-campus parties was a common problem. Policy and enforcement interventions were implemented in 2005 and 2006 at half of the universities, with the other half also monitored for comparison. Interventions included nuisance party enforcement operations, surveillance to prevent alcohol sales to minors, drunken driving checkpoints, social host

ordinances, and use of campus and local media to increase the visibility of the interventions.

To assess the effectiveness of the interventions, the researchers measured the proportion of drinking occasions in which students got drunk in various settings. The greatest reductions were found at universities with the highest intensity of intervention implementation, achieved through heavy publicity and highly visible enforcement activities. Results of the study, "Alcohol Risk Management in College Settings: The Safer California Universities Randomized Trial," were published online in the Dec. 2010 issue of the American Journal of Preventive Medicine.

#### **National Electronic Seminars**

**\*Please Note: There will not be a December audio call but please register to join us in January 2011.**

**January 2011**

***It's all Greek to Me***

Date: Thursday, January 20, 2011

Time: 3:00-4:15 p.m. ET

Speakers: TBA

Rushing, bidding, and pledging are all part of the "Greek Life" experience on many college campuses. Unfortunately, so is underage drinking. Why do fraternity and sorority members drink more than other students, thereby suffering the negative effects of alcohol abuse on a frequent basis, which often includes poor academic performance, missing classes, fights, vandalism, injuries, and sexual assault? What can college campuses, community leaders, and law enforcement do to change the drinking culture of this population? Join us to unravel the mystery, learn what the research says, and discover environmental management approaches that some college campuses and local communities are using to impact underage and hazardous drinking within the Greek system.

\*Visit [www.udetc.org/audioconferregistration.asp](http://www.udetc.org/audioconferregistration.asp) to register.\*

To print a copy of this month's Resource Alert visit:  
[www.udetc.org/documents/ResourceAlerts/ResourceAlert1210.pdf](http://www.udetc.org/documents/ResourceAlerts/ResourceAlert1210.pdf)

The Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season!



*The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Office of Juvenile Justice for Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) or the Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center (UDETCC) and are solely of the author/source.*



# CONDUCTING COMPLIANCE CHECK OPERATIONS

## A Distance Learning Course

This **FREE** four-hour online training course provides basic guidelines and operational information on reducing sales of alcohol to underage purchasers through compliance investigations of alcohol retailers. The course presents rationales for carrying out these investigations and emphasizes the importance of reducing youth access to alcohol thereby reducing youth related crime in the community and improving the quality of life.

### COURSE OBJECTIVE:

To train newly hired or experienced officers to utilize their existing alcohol laws or ordinances as an operational tool to prevent underage access to alcohol from commercial sources. This course is designed at an introductory level and is intended to be used as a tool to prepare attendees for subsequent on-site classroom training and experiential learning activities.

### ACCESS TO THE COURSE:

The "Compliance Check Operations" distance learning course is designed primarily for law enforcement personnel who will be involved in the planning and/or implementation of alcohol compliance checks. This course is also suitable for law enforcement supervisors and administrators, criminal justice partners, state and local coalition members, and other members of the community as a tool to develop a greater awareness of the benefits and requirements associated with conducting alcohol compliance checks.

To access the course visit:

<https://www.thecjportal.org/dl/PIRE/CC/Pages/ComplianceChecks.aspx>



### COURSE OUTCOMES:

Participants who complete the course will be able to:

- Understand the issues related to underage drinking and the retail availability of alcohol to underage purchasers.
- Motivate policymakers, communities, and law enforcement to place greater emphasis on alcohol compliance investigations and prevention of underage drinking.
- Implement step-by-step guidelines for carrying out alcohol compliance investigations.
- Identify barriers to compliance investigations and approaches to overcoming these barriers.
- Utilize compliance investigations efficiently and effectively to deter sales to minors and demonstrate community norms against underage drinking.



# National Electronic Seminars Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program

The OJJDP Audio-TELECONFERENCE Series

## 2011 National Electronic Seminars Calendar

**January 20, 2011 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**

### It's All Greek To Me!

Rushing, bidding, and pledging are all part of the "Greek Life" experience on many college campuses. Unfortunately, so is underage drinking. Why do fraternity and sorority members drink more than other students, thereby suffering the negative effects of alcohol abuse on a frequent basis, which often includes poor academic performance, missing classes, fights, vandalism, injuries, and sexual assault? What can college campuses, community leaders, and law enforcement do to change the drinking culture of this population? Join us to unravel the mystery, learn what the research says, and discover environmental management approaches that some college campuses and local communities are using to impact underage and hazardous drinking within the Greek system.

Happy Hanukkah



**February 24, 2011 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**

### Alcohol Energy Drinks: They Pack a Killer Punch!

"Teen crashes into house in Arizona after playing beer pong"  
"Nine "dangerously drunk" college students hospitalized in Washington"  
"20-Year old Florida college student dies of gunshot"

What did all of these tragedies have in common? All of these incidents involved the consumption of alcohol energy drinks or "AED's". Many states quickly took the initiative to ban or discourage the sale of these beverages. The Food and Drug Administration initiated an investigation of the caffeinated alcohol beverages which have been nicknamed "blackout in a can" or "liquid cocaine" by those that have consumed the product. Join us to get an update on what is being done around the Country to prevent similar injuries and death as a result of underage access to alcohol.



## We want to hear from you!

Do you have an Underage Drinking Topic that would make a great National Electronic Seminar? Send us your suggestions at [udetc@udetc.org](mailto:udetc@udetc.org) and put 'NES Topic Suggestion' in the subject line!

For audio-conference registration information, please visit [www.udetc.org](http://www.udetc.org)

All programs provide opportunities for presentation, discussion, and sharing information.

Telephone dial-in instructions and accompanying materials will be mailed to registrants two weeks before the audio conference.

To register for any of these free electronic seminars by phone, call toll-free 1-877-335-1287 extension 230